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GERALD L. K. SMITH FORMS "INNER CIRCLE"

Former Silver Shirter, Key Appeaser and Agent
of U. S. Cliveden Set, Launching New Campaign
to Obstruct U. S. War Effort

The Hour learns that Gerald L. K. Smith, former lieutenant of the late Huey Long and now national chairman of the fascist Committee of One Million, is forming in Detroit, Michigan, a secret group called The Inner Circle. This group is to serve as a brain trust for the anti-democratic, disruptive program with which Fifth Columnist Smith seeks to undermine American morale and hamper the war effort of this country. The slogan of The Inner Circle will be: "Christ First!"

We have in our possession a letter, sent out by Gerald L. K. Smith from his Detroit headquarters on January 24 to a select number of his followers, which tells of the creation of this Inner Circle. The recipients of the letter are invited to join the newly organized cabal. Smith writes:

"... after much thought and planning, I have decided to establish what we shall call 'THE INNER CIRCLE.' Let us visualize the Committee of One Million as a gigantic wheel. Then, let us think of 'The Inner Circle' as a wheel, within a wheel. The purpose of this letter is to invite you to become a close consistent co-worker, and be listed as a member of my personal inner circle. By filling out the blank at the bottom of this letter and mailing it to me at once, your name will be recorded on this special list. Kindly consider this invitation a personal matter."

Smith and America's Cliveden Set

The Detroit fascist mentions in his letter that he has discussed the formation of The Inner Circle with certain of his "friends" in Washington, D. C.:

"... these words are being written at a time when I have just returned from Washington. While there, I had conferences with several leaders, men who understand the power and potency of the 'Committee of One Million.' I was given a cordial reception.

(MORE)

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t E. Kahn
d Consultants
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nes Steel
d Stowe
e Williams

"I spent four hours with one particular Senator, an outstanding figure in American public life, and gleaned from him certain unpublished information, most of which I expect to pass on to my Inner Circle of friends in the near future.

"Among other things, this man gave me his reasons for believing that a 'conspiracy' has been worked out behind the scenes, for destroying the Sovereignty of the United States by making us an organic part of the British Empire. ... I shuddered instinctively at the thought of having the sins, weaknesses, economic and geographical handicaps of a foreign government saddled upon us."

In the light of President Roosevelt's recent reference to a U. S. Cliveden Set, Smith's boast of assistance from Washington has particular significance.

It is not an idle boast. The Hour can reveal that among the congressmen with whom Gerald L. K. Smith has been in close touch are Senator Robert R. Reynolds of North Carolina, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs; Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg of Michigan; Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana; ex-Senator Rush Holt of West Virginia (currently accused of having cooperated with the paid Nazi agent, George Sylvester Viereck); and Representative Clare E. Hoffman of Michigan.

Smith's Record

For a number of years Smith has played a key role in the anti-democratic movement in the United States. His fifth column activities have not always brought him into circles as eminent as those he frequents today. On August 5, 1938, H. E. Martin, executive director of the Silver Shirts of America, sent to Dr. L. M. Birkhead, director of the Friends of Democracy, a letter which stated:

"Answering your letter of the 3rd regarding Mr. Gerald L. K. Smith's connection with the Silver Shirts, which you say he denies, we have on file certain letters and telegrams received from him ... The letters are all written on Silver Shirts of America letterheads and signed by him. His registration number as a member of the Silver Shirts was 3223 and his wife's number was 3220."

Smith's important function in this subversive band is indicated in the following passage from one of his many communications to Silver Shirt chief William Dudley Pelley, who is now in jail in North Carolina: "... by the time you receive this letter I shall be on the road to St. Louis and parts north with a uniformed squad of young men composing what I believe will be the first Silver Shirt stormtroop in America."

Smith, an expert rabble-rouser, was not content to remain for long in Pelley's service. He began organizing vigilante groups of his own. He traveled about the country spreading anti-Semitic propaganda. On August 5, 1938, the press in Cleveland, Ohio, described Smith's disruptive technique in these words: "In his recent speedy tour of Ohio,



Reverend Smith has spoken in both urban and rural communities. In the urban communities he has made no reference to racial groups, but in the rural communities, he has decried the sinister influence of Jews and Catholics."

In 1939 Smith came to Detroit, Michigan. He won the support of influential backers and began a weekly radio program over WJR, the city's largest and most expensive station. He established in the auto city, headquarters for the Committee of One Million.

The Committee has a secret membership which, according to Smith, is active in every state in the country, and which has specialized in disseminating anti-New Deal, anti-labor and appeasement propaganda. In its "anti-war" machinations, Smith's group closely cooperated with the Nazi-endorsed America First Committee; and, although America Firsters denied Smith was one of their members, it was commonly known that he supervised their operations in the Michigan area.

Current Activity

Each Sunday evening at 7:15, Gerald L. K. Smith now broadcasts from Station WJR in Detroit. He speaks in the name of the Committee of One Million. His radio programs are aimed, none too subtly, at creating disunity among Americans by stirring up race hatred. He constantly harps on the Coughlinite theme of "Christ First in America." He also attempts to undermine confidence in the war leadership of the Roosevelt Administration. Periodically, his speeches are re-broadcast by transcription over Station WOL in Washington, D. C.

The Hour asks: how much longer will Gerald L. K. Smith be permitted to maintain his anti-democratic band and to continue his work of undermining morale and hampering the war effort of this country?

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ADDENDUM ON GRIGORIEFF AND BAGOCIUS

The Hour is in receipt of additional data on the pro-Nazi, anti-Semitic activities of Nikifor Grigorieff, who recently assisted in forming the Committee for the Promotion of Democracy (see The Hour for December 13 and 30, 1941). The latest material we have secured, proving that this fascist Ukrainian continued to spread Nazi, Jew-baiting propaganda after his arrival in this country in 1939, is a Ukrainian-language booklet entitled Basic Principles of Independent Ukrainian Political Action. The booklet, authored by Grigorieff and published in Detroit in September, 1939, is filled with such Hitlerite propaganda as the following "statistics" about the Soviet Ukraine:

"... Jews control 32% of the industry ..., Jews control 48% of trade, political power is in the hands of Muscovites, Poles and Jews ...

"Jews do not support Ukrainian culture, but rather the culture of foreign occupants; commerce is in the hands of the Jews ...; the Jews control 65% of trade in the Soviet Ukraine."

(MORE)

It is significant that John Koos of Detroit, Michigan, is listed as one of the financial supporters of Grigorieff's booklet, which aims at spreading the Nazi canard of "Jewish-Bolshevism." Koos is a leader of the Hetman, a Nazi-Ukrainian organization with headquarters in Berlin. It was this same Koos who on September 30, 1938, sent Adolph Hitler a cable congratulating him on his "settlement of the minority problem." (See The Hour for September 14, 1940.)

Bagocius and Keleivis

Another of the individuals whom we named as being active in organizing the Committee for the Promotion of Democracy was F. J. Bagocius of Boston, Mass. We pointed out that Bagocius had for some time been associated with the pro-Nazi Lithuanian-language publication Keleivis, which periodically carries his articles. A Boston recipient of The Hour has written us a letter stating in part:

"You may be interested to know that Bagocius helped draw up the original statement of ownership of Keleivis. ... This newspaper gave very favorable publicity to his work in the Committee for the Promotion of Democracy... Incidentally, here are some characteristic quotes from Keleivis: 'To show their hatred for the Lithuanians, the Lithuanian bolsheviks wed Jewesses' (October 8, 1941 issue); 'Deutsche Zeitung im Ostland writes that in the very near future all Jews of Lithuania... will be herded into labor groups. It will be hard for the little Jews, especially those who were feasting on the lordly commissar's bread.' (November 26, 1941); 'Appointed as Lithuania's commissar of agriculture was Chaim Grossman, a stinking kike.' (December 10, 1941)."

In the October 15 issue of Keleivis, Bagocius reported how a delegation had gone to the U. S. State Department with a declaration announcing the formation of the Committee for the Promotion of Democracy. Bagocius was a member of that delegation.

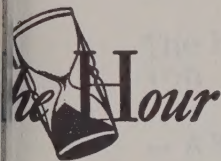
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NOTE

In the December 13, 1941 issue of The Hour, we stated: "Victor Chernov ... is said to be a German agent of long standing. During the first World War he published a Russian-language paper in Switzerland, which was subsidized by the Kaiser's government. At that time he was on the blacklist of the British Intelligence. ..."

From data we have subsequently received, we have reached the conclusion that this statement about Chernov was not true and was based upon information which was incorrect. The Hour, therefore, recommends that a correction be carried by any publication which reprinted our original statement. We regret any embarrassment which may have been caused Victor Chernov.

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TREASON IN OMAHA

With each week the treasonable propaganda distributed by Charles B. Hudson, of Omaha, Nebraska, becomes more vicious. His pro-Axis mimeographed bulletin, America In Danger!, has one objective; to create dissension among Americans by pitting Gentile against Jew, white against colored. The latest issue of the fascist publication offers a particularly sickening illustration of the Nazi-spawned lies with which Hudson hopes to disrupt this country. The issue contains a two-page article entitled "Typhus," which purports to deal with the epidemic sweeping Nazi-occupied Europe. Hudson, with brutal cynicism, asserts that Jews are purposely spreading the plague and that, "The truth as to who is responsible for spreading Typhus should furnish additional proof as to who and what constitutes the real '5th Column' in the USA. If preventive measures [are] not taken, our large cities too will be laid low by Typhus epidemics, for we have absorbed 'refugees' who carry the seeds of that Plague!"

According to the Omaha Fifth Columnist, a vast conspiracy lies behind the typhus epidemic, "which helps wipe out White Race in Europe, thus making Yellow Race its conquerer." (In the December 9, 1941 issue of America In Danger! Hudson pointed out; "The Mongolian Jap is blood-brother to ... Jews, who are more Mongolian than black or white.")

Hudson's pro-Nazi propaganda reaches a peak of scurrilousness in the following passage from the current issue of America In Danger!:

"Since there is much 'unknown to medicine,' isn't it possible that there are angles to the use of 'blood banks' entirely foreign to the purported one of saving lives? In view of ... Jewish-promoted 'typhus epidemics' in Europe, is their present energetic widespread campaign for collection of Jewish 'blood banks' for army, navy and civilian use prophetic of the predicted epidemics due in America? How would you like to have the bloodstream of your baby, or son, or husband, or daughter, or wife, polluted by dried blood collected from Jews, Negroes and criminals?"

Hudson on Winchell and The Hour

Like all fifth columnists, Hudson fears any publicity which exposes the true character of his seditious work. On January 26 he devoted the first two pages of his bulletin to attacking Walter Winchell and The Hour for spotlighting his machinations to obstruct the war effort of the United States. (Hudson characterized The Hour as a "mouthpiece of International Jewry" and a supporter of "Soviet Bolshevik diabolical tactics.")

Needless to say, The Hour will continue to expose the treasonable activities of Charles B. Hudson until the government authorities take proper action against him and his pro-Axis publication.

